

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed November 1, 2006 has been received and its contents carefully considered. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections are respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-5, 13, 16 and 17 were rejected as being unpatentable over either one of Japanese Patent 2001-289366 or Mathews et al. '511 in view of any one of Bates et al. '743, Bates et al. '282, Marzocchi et al. '830, Marzocchi et al. '123 or Marzocchi '452, all further taken in view of Gareis. This rejection is respectfully traversed. Without conceding the propriety of this rejection, each of the two pending and non-withdrawn independent claims has been amended so that both the claims now recite that the bending objects are adjustable in at least two directions. This feature finds support in the specification, at least at page 8, lines 14-19.

The feature of adjusting the bending device in at least two directions, in combination with the other recited features, is believed neither taught nor suggested by the references of record. This feature by itself was referred to in prior dependent claim 15, which was rejected in the Office Action as unpatentable over the references set forth in the paragraph above further taken with Azari. This rejection is also respectfully traversed as follows.

Initially, it is noted that the claimed invention is a method directed to constructing a tubular hose assembly. The hose assembly includes a tubular braided reinforcing material that is applied over an inner tubular layer. In order to facilitate drawing an emulsion into the gaps of the reinforced material, the tubular items are moved about bending devices. As described in the present specification at page 7, lines 23-32, the bending devices or bending objects are preferably circular or round objects, and can be for example in the form of pulleys, wheels, tubular assembly or the like. As recited in the present amended independent claims, these devices are also adjustable in at least two directions.

The Office Action is understood to concede that the various references used in the principal rejection do not teach or suggest such adjustable bending members. In this regard, the Office Action is understood to rely on Azari. However, Applicant respectfully submits that there is no teaching, suggestion or motivation, or any other indication in this reference grouping to look to Azari, nor is there any suggestion in Azari to combine it with the other references as proposed in the Office Action. In this regard, it is noted that the primary references are being combined with respect to an invention that claims a tubular structure. However, Azari is not understood to relate to the manufacture of any tubular structure, but to the contrary appears to be directed to manufacturing “pellets, tapes and similar products.” Azari is not anywhere seen to relate to the manufacture of hoses, nor any other type of tubular product.

Further, when addressing claim 15 the Office Action does not refer to any reference at all. Rather the Office Action asserts with respect to former claim 15 that one skilled in the art would have understood how to vary positioning the pins of Azari. Applicant respectfully submits that nothing in Azari refers to having adjustable pins in any direction, nor adjusting the pins in two directions. Thus, Azari is not believed to remedy the deficiencies of the primary references with respect to the presently amended independent claims.

With regard to the objection to the drawings, a “new sheet” of drawings is attached hereto with a proposed informal drawing, Figure 3, for the Examiner’s consideration. Such consideration and an indication of an approval of this drawing are respectfully requested and formal drawings in the future at an appropriate time.

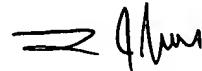
In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of the application are believed in order, and such action is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would be helpful in expediting prosecution of the application; the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at 202-861-1696.

Docket No. 79287.21520
Application No. 10/663,259
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In the event this paper is not timely filed, Applicant petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fee deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-2036 with reference to Attorney Docket No. **79287.21520**.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment: Informal Drawing of Fig. 3